



STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor  
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director  
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November 1, 1983

Mr. LeRoy Fyock  
Environmental Specialist  
Chevron Phosphate  
Manila Star Route  
Vernal, Utah 84078

RE: Pond Release Areas  
Chevron Resources  
Vernal Operations  
ACT/047/007  
Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Fyock:

On October 19, 1983, Tom Portle and myself measured revegetation success on selected areas of the Chevron Phosphate Operation that had been reclaimed three or more years ago, at the request of Chevron Resources. We were accompanied by Doreen Bassler and yourself. All areas checked had formerly been of the pinyon-juniper habitat type, with a natural ground cover of 18 percent (Native Plants Vegetation Study 1982). Therefore, the revegetated areas needed to have achieved 12.6 percent ground cover to be released.

Following is a description of the sampling and success of each area. Size and location of each area was determined from a map submitted by Chevron Resources on October 20.

Area I

Size: .92 acre  
Treatment: broadcast seeded with alfalfa and crested wheatgrass, 1976  
Samples: 9 (8 cover plots, 1 transect)  
Mean Ground Cover: 47.6 percent  
Disposition: Bond released

Area II

Size: 3.44 acres  
Treatment: broadcast seeded with alfalfa and crested wheatgrass, 1976  
Samples: 25 cover plots  
Mean Ground Cover: 20.8 percent  
Disposition: Bond released

### Area III

Size: 2.29 acres  
Treatment: broadcast seeded with alfalfa and crested wheatgrass, 1976  
Samples: 10 cover plots  
Mean Ground Cover: 29.6 percent  
Disposition: Bond released

### Area IV

Size: 2.3 acres  
Treatment: broadcast seeded with alfalfa and crested wheatgrass, 1976  
Samples: 10 cover plots  
Mean Ground Cover: 36.5 percent  
Disposition: Bond released

### Area V

Size: 4.13 acres  
Treatment: drill seeded with Siberian wheatgrass, 1976  
Samples: 20 cover plots  
Mean Ground Cover: 16.8 percent  
Disposition: Release withheld due to lack of diversity

Although this area meets the cover requirement, it does not meet a standard of diversity, nor is it suitable for the proposed postmining land-use of wildlife habitat (requirements of Rule M-10[12]). Since the area is stabilized, it is recommended that a diverse mixture be interseeded around the existing plants. The three-year responsibility period will begin again following reseedling.

### Area VI

Size: 12.17 acres  
Treatment: drill seeded with a mix of grasses, forbs and shrubs  
Samples: 30 cover plots  
Mean Ground Cover: 18.8 percent  
Disposition: Bond released

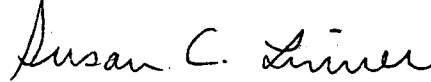
In addition to these areas, 10 cover plots were sampled on a naturally revegetated hillside between Areas III and IV. Mean ground cover on this area was 13.6 percent. Therefore, the area may be released. If you wish to have this area released, please notify us of the exact acreage involved.

None of the areas released at this time show much species diversity, all being dominated by two or three introduced species. It is hoped that the extensive seeding program that has been undertaken in the last two years by Chevron will produce more diverse and more natural revegetated areas.

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Thank you for showing us areas in Panel A and Panel C that have been or will be reclaimed this year. Please contact Tom Portle or myself with questions.

Sincerely,



SUSAN C. LINNER  
RECLAMATION BIOLOGIST

SCL/btb

cc: J. Smith, DOGM  
T. Portle, DOGM  
P. Grubaugh-Littig, DOGM